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Aquatica Submarines Completes Historic Expedition to the Blue Hole of Belize

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Aquatica Submarines →

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VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Feb. 7, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- The new year has brought a time for reflection as Aquatica Submarines celebrates a highly successful expedition to the Blue Hole of Belize. Spending almost three weeks onsite from November 27th – December 13th, 2018, the team was able to safely conduct over 20 dives into the Blue Hole taking a variety of people down to experience its splendor. The world was able to share in this experience through a two-hour live broadcast from the Blue Hole on The Discovery Channel that featured Sir Richard Branson, Fabien Cousteau and Aquatica's Chief Pilot, Erika Bergman. The team also supported the production of a forthcoming documentary featuring the Expedition by INE Entertainment, to be released in late spring 2019.

Using Aquatica's Stingray submarine and the Roatan Institute of Deepsea Exploration's (R.I.D.E.) Idabel Submarine, the team was able to explore the reaches of the Blue Hole and capture extensive imagery and video footage. Another key outcome of the Expedition was the creation of a complete 3-D sonar map of the Blue Hole. This historic accomplishment was achieved with the support of

Expedition partner Kongsberg using surface and submarine-mounted sonar equipment. The view the map provides is enhanced with other passive submarine-collected environmental data from the Blue Hole. Once processed and collated, this data will be shared with the Government of Belize and the larger global scientific community as a legacy from the Expedition.

"The Expedition's successes really mean that we were able to show the magic of the Blue Hole to the world and reinforce the messages of all the Expedition members that we must continue to work diligently to conserve our world's oceans for future generations." - **Harvey Flemming**, President of Aquatica Submarines.

Led by Aquatica Submarines, the Expedition's success came about through a combination of hard work and outstanding cooperation from all of the participating organisations; Aquatica Submarines, RIDE, TDI Brooks, Virgin Group, Ocean Unite, The Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center, Belize Audubon Society, Deep Trekker, Global Ocean Exploration, Kongsberg, The Discovery Channel, INE Entertainment, Rice University, the University of Hull, Aggressor Liveboards, Divers Alert Network, Outland Technology and UVO. Other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that provided support were; Oceanic Global, Oceana and The Aquatica Foundation.

Groups whose support for the Expedition was key were generous sponsors; Weeks Abroad, Virgin Voyages and Belize Natural Energy and the Empire Group. The Expedition was all buttressed by the outstanding support from the Government of Belize, The Belize Fisheries Department and the Belize Audubon Society.

About Aquatica Submarines

Aquatica Submarines is an emerging and innovative company in the manned submersible technology space. Based in Vancouver, BC, Canada, the company strives to design, build and operate safe, robust and versatile manned submersibles for use in scientific, commercial and recreational endeavours.

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